MADE BY JACKIE FORSYTE AND MICHAEL EDELSON
THANKS TO JOE IVERSON @ANALOGMECHANIC

A TAPE ZINE

A LOS ANGELES-BASED 501(C) 3 NONPROFIT
DEDICATED TO FACILIATING SUPPORT
FOR ANALOG MEDIA

ACCESS TO FILMMAKING EQUIPMENT, TAPE RENTAL,
AND DIGITAL CONTENT LIBRARY
VIA PATREON AT $5/MONTH

SCHEDULE DIGITIZATION SERVICES
INFO@TAPEANALOG.ORG

BUY TICKETS TO SCREENINGS AT
WHAMMYANALOG.COM

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM
@TAPE_LOSANGELES

TAPEANALOG.ORG

VALUE
$2.99
DEPT. 467

BE KIND
PLEASE REWIND

CHILDREN

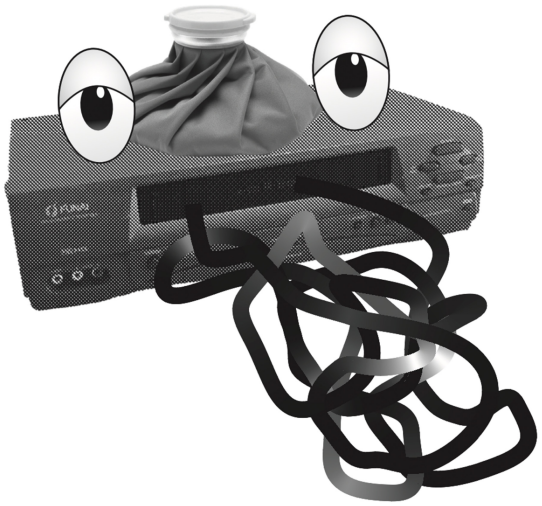
REMOVE OR SECURE
UNSECURED LABELS ON
TAPES WHEN INSERTING
INTO A VCR

HORROR

$1.49

4.9

VCR

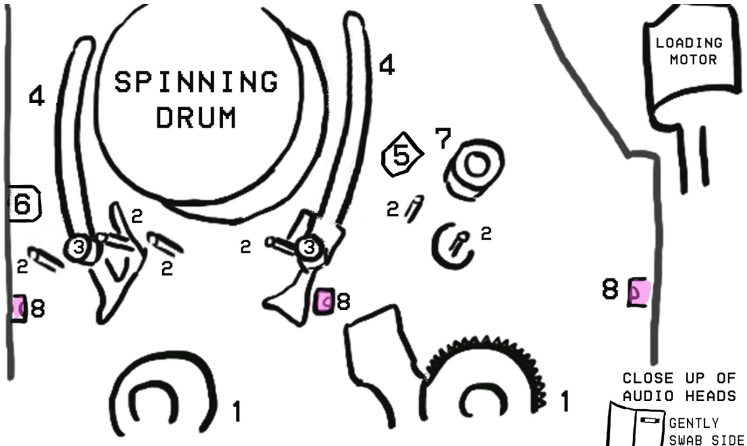


Maintenance

A T.A.P.E. PUBLICATION

After

Cleaning



CLOSE UP OF AUDIO HEADS

GENTLY SWAB SIDE TO SIDE

1. REELS
SPECIALIZED POST THAT LOCKS INTO VHS REELS TO SPIN THEM

2. CAPSTANS *CLEAN W/ 99% ALCOHOL
THERE ARE SEVERAL STATIONARY METAL POSTS THAT MAKE CONTACT WITH THE TAPE & GIVE IT TENSION

3. ROLLER GUIDE POST *CLEAN W/ 99% ALCOHOL
MIXED PLASTIC & METAL PIECES THAT PULL THE TAPE OUT OF THE CASSETTE SHELL AND WRAP IT AROUND THE HEAD

4. ROLLER GUIDE TRACK *LEAVE LUBE ALONE
METAL TRACK THAT ROLLER GUIDES ARE MOUNTED IN

5. AUDIO HEAD *CLEAN W/ 99% ALCOHOL
STATIONARY HEAD THAT READS AND RECORDS AUDIO CONTENT ONTO A DISTINCT AUDIO TRACK ON THE TAPE

6. ERASE HEAD *CLEAN W/ 99% ALCOHOL
STATIONARY HEAD THAT ERASES CONTENT BY SCRAMBLING THE MAGNETIZATION

7. PINCH ROLLER *CLEAN W/ DISTILLED WATER
SPINNING RUBBER ROLLER THAT ADDS TENSION TO THE TAPE PATH

8. STOP SENSOR *CLEAN W/ 99% ALCOHOL
A LASER SHINES BETWEEEN THESE LIGHT DETECTING POSTS. WHEN THE CLEAR LEADER PASSES THROUGH THE LASER, IT ACTIVATES THE SENSOR TO STOP

SUPPLIES TO FIX ALMOST EVERYTHING

99% ISOPROPYL ALCOHOL & PRINTER PAPER

BOUGHT AT MAJOR OFFICE SUPPLY STORES. USE THESE TO CLEAN VIDEO HEADS AND OTHER ELEMENTS.

1. TEAR A SMALL PIECE OF PAPER AND APPLY ALCOHOL
2. RUN THE PAPER OVER THE VIDEO HEAD WITH VERY LIGHT PRESSURE, ROTATING THE DRUM BACK AND FORTH
3. REPEAT UNTIL ALL HEADS ARE CLEAR OF DEBRIS

SUPER LUBE SYNTHETIC GREASE

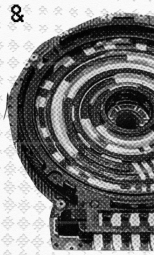
THIS SHOULD BE USED SPARINGLY! WITH THE LIMITED NUMBER OF TIMES YOU'LL NEED TO APPLY GREASE, ONE TUBE SHOULD LAST THE ENTIRE LIFETIME OF THE VHS PLAYER.

COMPRESSED AIR DUSTER

THE FIRST AND LAST TOUCH! AFTER OPENING UP YOUR VCR, SPRAY COMPRESSED AIR INSIDE THE CASE TO REMOVE ANY LOOSE DUST. SPRAY THE DECK ONE MORE TIME FOR SAFE MEASURE TO REMOVE ANY LAST REMNANTS OF DIRT AND DEBRIS.

MODE SWITCH

MY VCR WILL POWER ON BUT
1. RUNS FOR A WHILE & SHUTS OFF
2. BEHAVES IRRATICALLY ONE MOMENT & FINE THE NEXT
3. STRUGGLES TO SWITCH BETWEEN PLAY, STOP, FFWD, AND REWIND

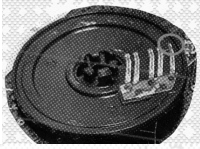


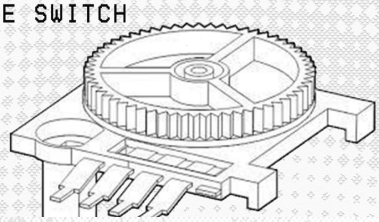
MODE SWITCH IS A MECHANICAL PLASTIC-METAL PIECE THAT MOVES TO MAKES CONTACT WITH METAL PLATES IN ORDER TO TELL THE VCR'S INTERNAL COMPUTER WHICH MODE TO GO INTO (STOP, PLAY, FFWD, REWIND)

THE TROUBLE IS FINDING THE MODE SWITCH

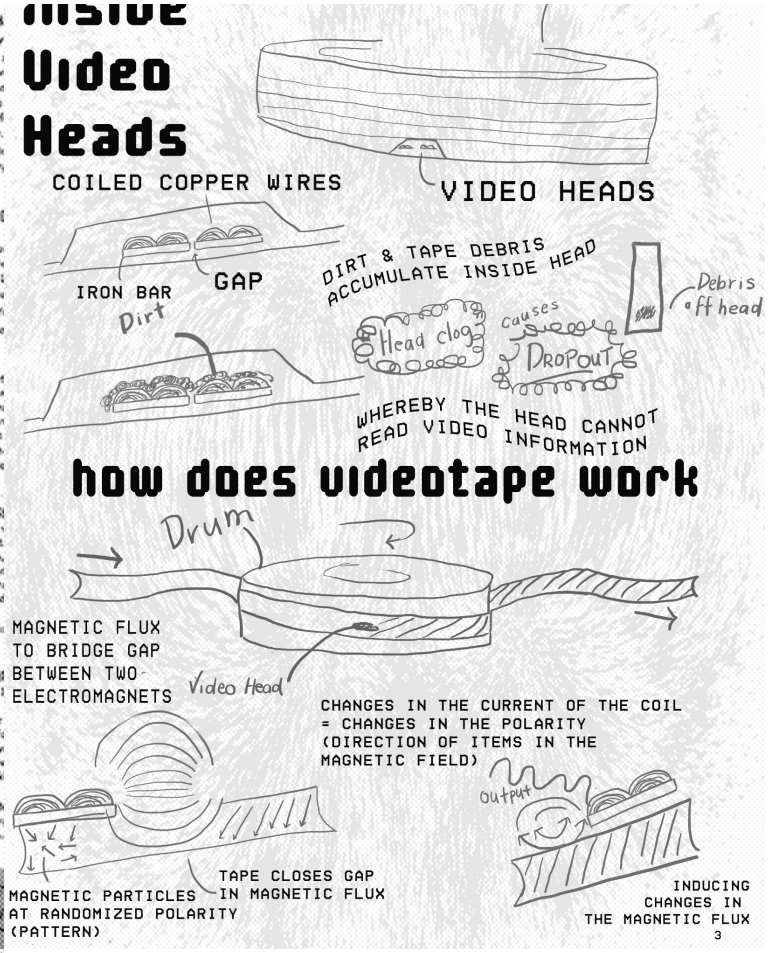
OFTEN, CLEANING THE METAL PLATES WITH ALCOHOL & ELECTRONIC PARTS LUBRICANT WILL FIX THE PROBLEM IT IS IN A DIFFERENT LOCATION ON EVERY MACHINE & WILL REQUIRE TAKING THE ENTIRE CARRIAGE OUT

BEST BET - CONSULT YOUTUBE TUTORIALS TO FIND & CLEAN THE MODE SWITCH ON YOUR SPECIFIC MODEL





cleaning log

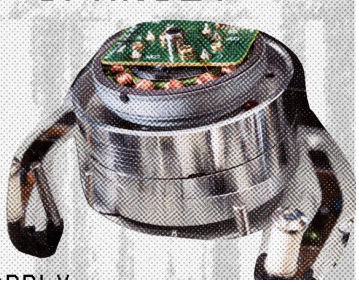


ROLLER GUIDE TRACK LUBRICATION

THE ROLLER GUIDES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PULLING THE TAPE OUT OF THE CASSETTE SHELL AND WRAPPING IT AROUND THE VIDEO HEADS. IF THE TRACK THAT THESE GUIDES ARE MOUNTED IN LOSES LUBRICATION, IT WILL NOT PROPERLY WRAP AROUND THE HEAD

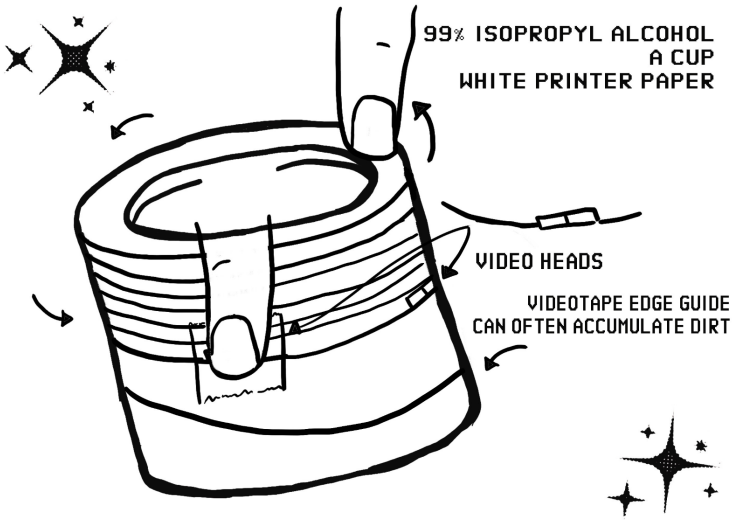
DURING CLEANING:
AVOID LUBRICATION! IT'S PROBABLY GOOD!

LUBRICATION SHOULD BE SPARCE!



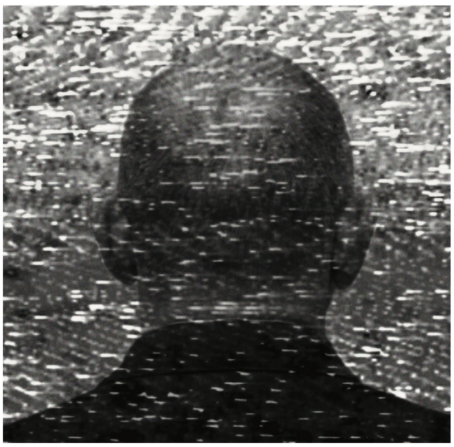
IF LUBRICATION PATH IS TOO DIRTY-CLEAN IT OFF & REAPPLY
IF LUBRICATION PATH IS DRY-CLEAN IT OFF & REAPPLY

CLEANING VIDEO HEADS



1. TEAR PRINTER PAPER INTO STRIPS
2. DIP PAPER INTO 99% ISO
3. HOLD SATURATED PAPER FLUSH AGAINST THE DRUM
THE PAPER SHOULD LIGHTLY PRESS AGAINST INDENT WITH VIDEO HEADS. YOU'LL FEEL IT WITH YOUR FINGER
4. SPIN DRUM WITH THE OTHER HAND, KEEPING THE PAPER STATIONARY
DO NOT EXERT DOWNWARD PRESSURE
5. LIFT PAPER OFF DRUM. YOU SHOULD SEE DEPOSITS OF GREYISH-BLACK MATERIAL
6. REPEAT & CHANGE POSITIONS ON THE DRUM UNTIL PAPER COMES BACK CLEAN

Before



Cleaning

EVERY 40 HOURS OF PLAYBACK
OR
EVERY 3 MONTHS
OR
WHEN DIRTY

REMEMBER THIS
IS AN
ELECTRONIC
ALWAYS UNPLUG
DURING MAINTENCE!!!!

COMBO VCRS & CRTS
ARE PARTICULARLY
DANGEROUS

LOADING BELT

1. TAPE STARTS TO PLAY, SQUEALS, & SHUTS DOWN
2. THE TAPE DOES NOT CORRECTLY LOAD OR FULLY WRAP AROUND THE HEAD

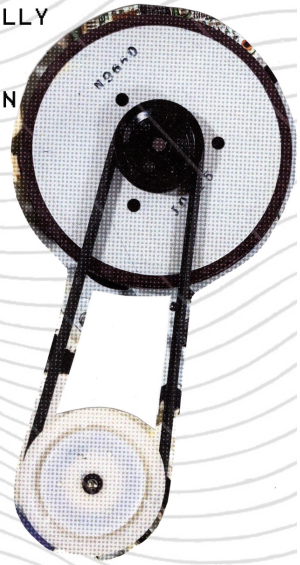
THE LOADING BELT IS ATTACHED TO THE LOADING MOTOR, RESPONSIBLE FOR MOVING THE TAPE HORIZONTALLY OR VERTICALLY INTO THE CARRIAGE.

WHEN IT SLIPS OUT OF POSITION OR THE RUBBER BREAKS DOWN, IT CREATES FRICTION (THE SQUEAL NOISE & FAILS TO LOAD

TIME TO REPLACE!

TAKE THE BELT OUT
1. MEASURE THICKNESS
2. MEASURE LENGTH
(MULTIPLY BY 2)

MINUS (10%) FOR STRETCHING

CONVERT INCHES TO DECIMAL

INCHES & FIND YOUR BELT ONLINE